

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAIRO 10068 271707Z

66

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

OMB-01 /076 W

----- 033777

R 271518Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5561

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 10068

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG XF

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS ON LEBANESE EVENTS

1. ALTHOUGH FRONT PAGES JULY 27 LARGELY DEVOTED TO PREVIOUS EVENING'S SADAT SPEECH, PAPERS CARRIED FOLLOWING COVERAGE AND COMMENTARY ON LEBANESE EVENTS.

2. ARAB SECURITY FORCE. ARAB LEAGUE'S AL-KHULI QUOTED AS SAYING ASF WILL NOT ABANDON THEIR PRESENT POSITIONS IN SPITE OF ANY ATTACKS MOUNTED AGAINST THEM. THIS COMMENT DIRECTED AT CHAMOUN, IN NEWS AGENCIES' VIEW.

3. ACTING AL SYG NOFAL RECEIVED 1,400,000 DOLLAR CHECK JULY 26 REPRESENTING SAUDI CONTRIBUTION FOR ASF EXPENSES.

4. MILITARY SITUATION. WITHOUT DETAIL, AHARAM REPORTS SYRIAN REINFORCEMENTS SWEEP INTO "NORTH AND SOUTH" LEBANON
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAIRO 10068 271707Z

JULY 26. THESE FORCES SAID TO CONSIST OF TWO ARMOR

BRIGADES. SYRIA SPARED MAJOR DIRECT CRITICISM IN TODAY'S PRESS.

5. RIGHTIST VIEW. PRESS REPORTS PIERRE GEMAYEL COMMENT THAT LEBANON SHOULD TURN TO UN FOR SOLUTION IF AL EFFORTS FAIL. GEMAYEL DESCRIBED AL INITIATIVE IN LEBANON AS POSITIVE BUT NO SUBSTITUTE FOR SYRIAN ROLE. QUOTED AS SAYING MARONITES WOULD SUPPORT AL INITIATIVE IF IT COMPLEMENTED SYRIAN EFFORTS.

6. DE FACTO PARTITION? REFERRING TO UPI REPORTS, JULY 26 GUMHURRIYA COMMENTED THAT LEBANON ALREADY DIVIDED INTO FIVE "ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS": A) SYRIAN CONTROLLED AREAS IN "NORTH AND EAST"; B) AN UNSPECIFIED 25 PERCENT OF THE COUNTRY CONTROLLED BY JUMBLATT'S CENTRAL POLITICAL COUNCIL; C) AREAS IN HANDS OF PALESTINIANS, INCLUDING 15 CAMPS WITH 500,000 INHABITANTS; D) JOUNIEH AREA UNDER RANJIYA'S SO-CALLED "LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT"; E) AREA WEST OF BEIRUT (SIC) CONTROLLED BY KARAME.

7. FRANJIYA, RIGHTISTS FLAYED. AHRAH AND GUMHURRIYA BOTH DIRECTED CONSIDERABLE EDITORIAL SPLEEN AT FRANJIYA AND RIGHTISTS. AHRAH EDITORIAL DENOUNCED HIM FOR ESCALATING LEBANESE DISPUTE TO ITS PRESENT LEVEL WITH HIS "THEORY OF BRINKSMANSHIP". CLAIMED FRANJIYA HAS LOST ANY LEGITIMATE STATUS AND JUSTIFICATION FOR HIS STAY IN OFFICE, COMMENTING THAT "CURRENT OF HISTORY ALWAYS SWEEPS AWAY THE ARROGANT, FASCISTS, VAMPIRES, AND ENEMIES OF PEOPLES." SEPARATE ARTICLE ACCUSED "ISOLATIONIST FALANGISTS BACKED BY SYRIANS" OF CONTINUATION OF HOSTILITIES FOR THEIR OWN INTERESTS. ARTICLE CLAIMED FOLLOWING AS FALANGIST OBJECTIVES: A) TO DESTROY PALESTINIAN PRESENCE IN LEBANON BY BREAKING BACKBONE OF PLO. CORRESPONDING SYRIAN INTEREST IS USE OF ITS POSITION IN LEBANON AS NEGOTIATING CARD IN FUTURE TALKS WITH ISRAEL ON GOLAN; B) TO INTERNATIONALIZE LEBANESE SITUATION MILITARILY, TO POINT WHERE FOREIGN FORCES MUST INEVITABLY BE CALLED IN; C) TO OFFER PARTITION OF LEBANON AS PLAUSIBLE SOLUTION. PRAISING JUMBLATT, GUMHURRIYA EDITORIAL DESCRIBED HIS REPORTED PREPAREDNESS TO ABANDON LEFTIST DEMANDS FOR REFORMS IN RETURN FOR PROTECTION OF PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CAIRO 10068 271707Z

IN LEBANON AS HIGHLY RESPONSIBLE POSITION. SAID JUMBLATT'S ATTITUDE EXPRESSES TRUE AIMS OF LEBANESE AND PALESTINIAN PEOPLES. CHAMOUN, FRANJIYA AND GEMAYEL CONDEMNED FOR HOSTILITY TO PALESTINIANS "IN FULL ACCORD WITH OBJECTIVES OF ARAB ENEMIES, PRIMARILY ISRAEL." DETECTED ACCORD BETWEEN "FRANJIYA'S ALLIANCE" AND ISRAEL WHEREBY ISRAEL MAIN RIGHTIST SOURCE FOR ARMS AND ISRAEL TROOPS "PERHAPS FIGHTING AT RIGHTISTS' SIDE IN LEBANON."

EILTS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CIVIL DISORDERS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO10068
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760289-0781
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760719/aaaaaqhv.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hackerp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 FEB 2004 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2005 by hackerp0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGYPTIAN PRESS ON LEBANESE EVENTS
TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006